

Claims Against the Government

Congress has passed laws governing payment to you for losses as a result of your military service. Not all losses resulting from Army service are reimbursable. For example, a loss that is partly your fault is not reimbursable. Army judge advocates around the world process claims under the supervision of the US Army Claims Service. Army Regulation (AR) 27-20 covers the basic claims procedures.

You may have a claim against the *government* if—

- Missing property is stolen from government quarters, from private quarters located outside the United States, or from an authorized storage place. Warehouses, offices, hospitals, baggage holding areas, and unit supply rooms are examples of authorized storage places.
- Property in government quarters or storage is damaged or destroyed by fire, flood, hurricane, theft, vandalism, or other unusual occurrences. Hail damage to an automobile parked on post and damage caused to property in the barracks when a water pipe breaks are examples of unusual occurrences.
- Property, including privately owned vehicles, is lost, damaged, or destroyed while transported or stored under government orders.
- Property is lost, damaged, or destroyed as a direct result of enemy action, riots directed against Americans overseas, soldiers giving first aid in a public disaster, and soldiers saving human lives or government property.
- Property is lost or damaged due to wrongful or negligent acts of Army agents.

You may have a claim against a *military member* under Article 139, Uniform Code of Military Justice, if that member stole, broke, or damaged your property. Read more about Article 139 Claims.

If you have questions concerning a possible claim against the Government arising out of military service or activities, you may contact the local military claims office for information.